

What if Sines doesn't run again?

NH 9-11-11

What might trickle down if Lake County Commissioner **Raymond E. Sines** doesn't seek re-election next year?

Sines as a free agent opens up a lot of possibilities for him and others.

One thing is, because state Sen. **Tim Grendell**, R-Chester Township, has been appointed judge for Geauga County Probate/Juvenile Court, an appointment to the Ohio Senate will be needed.

Perhaps state Rep. **Ron Young**, R-Leroy Township, is given the first option to be appointed as state senator, then someone would need to be appointed to fill Young's 63rd Ohio House District seat.

How about Sines?

The Perry Village resident served for years as a state representative for eastern Lake County and later was a state lobbyist before he became county commissioner in 2003.

If Young didn't get the appointment, maybe Sines is appointed state senator?

With Republican Gov. **John Kasich** now in office, don't be surprised to see Sines perhaps get appointed to a state board or commission in Columbus, if he was interested either prior to his term's expiration or afterward.

If Sines stepped away early as a commissioner, the county Republican Party would make an appointment to replace him and perhaps give a candidate a leg up on the race next year.

Maybe Leroy Township Trustee **Linda Burhenne** or even Elections Board Director **Janet F. Clair**, who will retire from her post after the November election?

Clair, also the county GOP's chairwoman, would have name recognition and connections as someone involved in



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county politics for decades. Speaking of GOP county chairs, what about **Dale Fellows**, a former county commissioner?

If Burhenne or Clair decided to run next year for the seat currently manned by Sines and one was to win the Republican Party nomination, perhaps it would set up Lake County to have its second female commissioner. That is if Willoughick Council President **Judy Moran**, a Democrat, takes another run for commissioner for that Sines' term and won the Democratic Party nomination.

Ohio Turnpike director?

There remains a vacancy for this position after the commission wanted to hire **David O. Regula** earlier this summer to replace the retired **L. George Distel**. But Regula declined the job. What if Lake County Engineer **James R. Gills** was appointed? Might he have an interest?

Fundies

■ **Brian Wollet**, Mentor City Council Ward 2 candidate, fundraiser from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the Branding Iron Cookhouse in Mentor. See **Carolyn Anderson** or **Rick Zaleski**.

■ **Harry Field**, Willoughby Municipal judge candidate, fundraiser from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Italian American Hall in Wickliffe. See **Russ Meraglio**, **Mark Zicarelli** or **Judy Moran**.

■ Eastlake Council Ward 3 candidate **Cindy Quinn-Hopkins** hosts Pasta and

Politics dinner from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Surfside Towers Party Room in Eastlake. See **James T. Overstreet**.

■ Fundraiser for **John Krueger**, candidate for Mentor Council Ward 4, from 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Decker's in Mentor. See Krueger.

■ Spaghetti dinner fundraiser for Willoughick Councilman **Charlie Malta** from 4 to 7 p.m. Sept. 18 at Willoughick American Legion Hall. See **MaryBeth Malta**.

■ Hors d'oeuvres fundraiser for Geauga County Recorder **Sharon C. Gingerich** from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Sept. 22 at Cleats Club Seat Grille in Chardon. See **Michele Lane**.

■ Lake County Democratic Women's club hosts annual fall luncheon at noon Sept. 24 at Cappelli's in Mentor.

■ **John Murphy**, candidate for Ward 4 Painesville Council, meet the candidate with complimentary buffet from 5 to 9 p.m. Sept. 29 at Rider's Inn in Painesville. See Murphy.

■ Lake County Commissioner **Daniel P. Troy** will host Fall Classic golf outing and clam bake with 12:30 p.m. shotgun start Sept. 30 at Madison Country Club in Madison Township. See Troy or **Kip Molenaar**.

Deadlines

The weekly deadline for candidates or other items to appear in this column is each Wednesday at 5 p.m. Emails or faxes are preferred.

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